

PAN, Louis  
Mobile: 0415 643 638  
46B Victoria Avenue  
Chatswood  
NSW 2067  
Australia

Mail Stop PCT,  
Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria,  
VA 22313-1450,  
USA.

19<sup>th</sup> April, 2005

**Re: Request for National Phase Entry for PCT/AU2004/001026**

Dear Commissioner for Patents,

I received a letter (31<sup>st</sup> March, 2004) from the Australian patent office saying that PCT/AU2004/001026 has not yet been publish as Open to Public Inspection by the World Intellectual Property Organisation. Therefore, to speed the application, I have enclosed here is a copy of the PCT request form (printed from PCT-SAFE easy mode), confirmation of the International filing date and a copy of the specification for PCT/AU2004/001026, as well as the IPER.

Further to the amendments described in the letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, I would also like to make some additional amendments to the application. The reason for the amendments is describe additional embodiment of the invention which only requires minor modifications to staplers.

The description is amended as follows:

Insert page 3a which lists additional figures.

Insert page 7d which describes the embodiments which only require minor modification to staplers.

The claims are amended as follows:

New claims 40, 41, and 42 inserted in new page 13b.

The drawings are amended as follows:

Added FIG. 23 and FIG.24 in a new drawing sheet 14.

Added FIG. 25 and FIG.26 in a new drawing sheet 15.

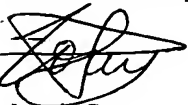
Added FIG. 27 and FIG.28 in a new drawing sheet 16.

Added FIG. 29 to FIG.31 in a new drawing sheet 17.

Added FIG. 32 in a new drawing sheet 18.

I have enclosed amended additional pages 3a, 7d, 13b and drawing sheets 14 to 18.

Yours sincerely,



Louis Pan